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CONFIDENTIAL

PTQ2090

PAGE 01 BEIJIN 29306 061048Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	CA-02	CIAE-00	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	EB-01	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-08	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OCS-06	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01
	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USER 00
	SA-01	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/055W	

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0588

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RELEASE () EXCISE () DENY () DECLASSIFY () DECLASSIFY IN PART IM/IPS/CR/IR S V Date: 5/27/97
EO Citations

CONFIDENTIAL BEIJING 029306

FOIA Exemptions PA Exemptions B1 () CLASSIFY as () S or () C Sec. () DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C TS authority to

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, CASC, PHUM, CH

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF HARRY WU

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: THE CHARGE SPOKE JULY 5 TO STATE COUNCIL FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE DIRECTOR AND VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LIU HUAQIU ON THE HARRY WU CASE, DESCRIBING THE MOOD IN WASHINGTON IN REACTION TO CHINA'S DETENTION OF WU, AND URGING THAT CHINA EXPEL WU OR GRANT IMMEDIATE CONSULAR ACCESS. LIU SAID TWICE THAT CHINA WAS "STUDYING" THE ISSUE. IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST, ASSISTANT MINISTER YANG JIECHI HAS AGREED TO SEE THE CHARGE ON JULY 11, BUT HAS INDICATED HE IS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE WU CASE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIJIN 29306 061048Z

THE CHARGE WILL NEVERTHELESS RAISE THE CASE WITH YANG.
THE CHARGE WILL ALSO REQUEST TO SEE THE HEAD OF THE MFA CONSULAR DIVISION ON JULY 7.

3. DURING A JULY 5 BANQUET HOSTED BY MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS,

CONFIDENTIAL

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CHANNEL: n/a

THE CHARGE DISCUSSED THE HARRY WU CASE BRIEFLY WITH LIU HUAQIU, DIRECTOR OF THE STATE COUNCIL FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE AND, CONCURRENTLY, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER. NOTING THAT HE HAS SPEAKING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, THE CHARGE TOLD LIU THAT HE (THE CHARGE) WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP; THAT THE MOOD IN BOTH CAPITALS WAS NOT HEALTHY; AND, IN WASHINGTON, THE HARRY WU PROBLEM HAD GENERATED A FIRESTORM OF ANTI-CHINESE REACTION. THE CONGRESS HAS PARTICULARLY EXERCISED ON THE ISSUE. THE CHARGE STRESSED THAT, BY CONTINUING TO HOLD WU, AND BY FURTHER DENYING US CONSULAR ACCESS, CHINA WAS POISONING THE ATMOSPHERE. IF CHINA EXPECTED THE U.S. TO RESPOND TO ITS CONCERNS, IT HAS DOUBTFUL THAT WASHINGTON COULD DO SO, OR WOULD WANT TO, SO LONG AS CHINA HELD WU.

4. LIU REFERRED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE CHARGE REITERATED THAT THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WAS NOW PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO PRESSURES OVER WHICH NEITHER SIDE HAD GOOD CONTROL SO LONG AS WE WERE IN A STALEMATE OVER THE WU CASE. THE CHARGE AGAIN URGED THAT CHINA RESOLVE THE WU CASE BY EXPELLING WU, OR FAILING THAT, BY FULFILLING ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CONSULAR AGREEMENT BY GRANTING ACCESS IMMEDIATELY. IN CLOSING, LIU SAID THAT CHINA HAS "STUDYING" THE WU CASE, A PHRASE WHICH HE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIJIN 29306 061048Z
USED ONE OTHER TIME DURING THE CONVERSATION.

5. EARLIER DURING THE SAME BANQUET, THE CHARGE SPOKE ABOUT THE WU CASE WITH MFA NORTH AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR-GENERAL MA ZHENGANG. AS OTHER LOWER-LEVEL CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE DONE HERE, MA SAID MERELY THAT [REDACTED]

6. INQ CHARGE'S REQUEST FOR A JULY 5 OR 6 CALL ON NEWLY APPOINTED ASSISTANT MINISTER YANG JIECHI (WHO IS CHARGED WITH NORTH AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN AFFAIRS) TO DISCUSS U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS, INCLUDING THE WU CASE,

CONFIDENTIAL

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YANG OFFERED TO SEE THE CHARGE ON JULY 11, BUT POINTED THE CHARGE BACK TO THE MFA CONSULAR DEPARTMENT FOR ANY DISCUSSION OF WU. DESPITE YANG'S DESIRES, IF THE WU CASE IS NOT RESOLVED BY JULY 11 BY CONSULAR ACCESS AND/OR HIS EXPULSION FROM CHINA, THE CHARGE, OF COURSE, WILL RAISE THE WU CASE. MEANWHILE, THE CHARGE WILL SEEK A MEETING JULY 7 WITH THE HEAD OF THE CONSULAR DIVISION, AT YANG'S SUGGESTION. HALLFORD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL